

MISCELLANY

Rural Felicity.

BY ADOLPHUS LONGFELLOW MUGGINS.

I was traveling, I was weary, and the night did promise cheery,
As I neared a road-side tavern half-embowed among the trees.
It was summer, fierce and burning, and I felt an inward yearning
For cool milk, and eggs, and bacon, and a mattress minus fleas,
And a vine-clad lattice-window drinking odors from the breeze,
And a night of blessed ease.

'Twas a building, quaint and quiet, where no bustle, noise nor riot,
Broke the sleeping sylvan beauty of the scene so fresh and fair,
And broad-armed elms were flinging lengthened shadows, birds were singing
Grateful anthems for the odors that arose upon the air,
And the swinging sign was creaking tuncful changes rather fair,
Making music in the air.

As I rode up to the portal, came there forth a huge-nosed mortal,
And the tint of his proboscis glowed like apples in the sun.
I was welcomed, I was weary, and mine host looked rather cheery—
Looked the patron of good living, for he weighed near half a ton,
With a face broad-spread, and radiant with jollity and fun,
Or reflections from the sun.

Then I sat me in the portal, while mine host, the red-nosed mortal,
Waddled back into the kitchen, and in tones seem'd touch by fear,
Thus addressed a red-haired woman, a tall, raw-boned, sulky human,
Who was dozing o'er a short clay-pipe and pot of table beer,
"There is company a-ri-ved, git some supper up, my dear."
It was music in my ear.

Soon barn-yard fowls were cackling—soon the kitchen fire was crackling,
And the filmy smoke was weaving phantom figures in the air.
I was happy past all measure, and pronounced the cook a treasure,
Though I didn't like her pipe and beer, and head of flaming hair,
But the odors of her viands fell like incense on the air,
And I that ere I smiled at care.

I was hungry, I was weary, but the banquet proved not cheery,
And my spirits sank within me as I scanned the table o'er—
The milk was acid-turning, and the chicken done to burning,
And the biscuit charred and blackened, with a heavy, doughy core,
While the butter run in streamlets from the plate upon the floor—
I'm religious, but I swore.

How I blessed (?) mine hostess crusty—how I blessed (?) her bacon rusty—
How I showered down invective as a trooper does by rote;
Gave a lengthy dissertation, 'pon eggs touch'd by incubation,
And the sin of keeping butter, 'till it's old enough to vote—
Casting odor in one's nostrils like an ancient billy-goat.
Till her conscience I had smote.

Then I left that banquet cheerless, and with steady step and fearless,
Swept triumphant past mine hostess, where she sat within the door;
But my lecture, deemed terrific, proved to her but soporific,
For she only deigned to answer with a stifled, drunken snore,
And, a moment after, tumbled from her chair upon the floor,
Most egregiously "tore."

I was hungry, I was weary, but my bed was left to cheer me,
And I bade mine host, "Old Bardolph," show me to my chamber door;
After rueful self-inspection, he replied, with marked dejection,
"I would light you up with pleasure, but my climbing days are o'er,
But you'll know your room for sartin, by the boot-jack at the door;
You can't miss it—number four."

After varied explorations, execrations and gyrations,
I espied the welcome boot-jack and the chamber number four,
With its beadstead, sleep-inviting, and its stillness, soul-delighting,
And its breezy lattice-window, with a wood-bine hanging o'er,
And the moonbeams through its branches weaving lace-work on the floor,
And one towel, and no more.

Tired nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep, how I adore her,
Waved her drowsy, leaden pinions, and I sunk in slumbers light,
Felt the cool winds sweeping o'er me, saw bright visions pass before me,
While mine ear drunk in the music of the voices of the night;
Then I felt a sudden pricking, and I knew I had a bite—
I arose and struck a light.

While I dreamed of whisp'ring myrtles, swarms of bugs, like soft-shell turtles,
Had been pouring from the fissures that were yawning in the wall,
And in whole platoons descending, with fierce purpose and unbending,
Overspread my shrinking body with a horrid living pall,
Drinking up my precious life-blood, craving flesh, and bones and all,
How I wished my blood was gall.

With christian resignation, I forbore annihilation,
For I didn't like their odors, I had smelt 'em once before,
But I took some scanty bedding, gave myself and it a shedding
Of the vampire interlopers, on the outside of the door,
Then I spread my quilt and pillow in the middle of the floor,
And I closed my chamber door.

Then commenced a close inspection, with a view to the detection
Of the means to build a breast-work 'round my pallet on the floor;
In a cupboard, old and rusty, 'mong jars cob-webbed o'er and dusty,

I espied a jug of syrup, or molasses, there in store,
And, with this most precious liquid, made a circle on the floor,
Round my bed upon the floor.

From within this safe enclosure, I looked forth with sweet composure
At the sanguinary villains, swarming at their leader's call,
But my joy had short duration, for with little hesitation,
Ev'ry devil soon was mounting up the rugged chamber wall,
And upon me, from the ceiling, like an avalanche did fall.
I retreated to the hall.

I, at last, in desperation, for my future preservation,
Smeared a circle on the ceiling o'er the circle on the floor;
After seeming consultation they, with wild-est exultation,
Seized the unoffending mattress and the ticking fiercely tore,
And bestrewed its bloodless bowels, in disorder, on the floor;
Strewed the straw upon the floor.

With the timber, thus provided, and by devilish instinct guided,
Soon, across the stream of treacle, they had built a bridge of straw,
With tressel-work unending, spans and arches firm, unbending,
And across their damned handiwork came pouring by the score,
And landed in the circle, in the circle on the floor,
And my flesh began to bore.

I'm a christian, I'm forbearing, and am little prone to swearing,
But the trials of the night had been upon me rather sore,
As I rushed from out that chamber, less in sorrow than in anger,
It is rather more than likely that I "kinder sorter" swore
That I'd cross that rural threshold, never, never, nevermore,
Cross that threshold nevermore.

A MACHINE WITH A FELLER.—"I want to buy a sewing-machine," said an old lady, entering a shop. "Do you wish for a machine with a feller?" blandly inquired the shopman. "No! don't want any of your fellers about me."

VICES AND NOSES.—Many persons are led by their vices, as there are many who are led by their noses; but there are a far greater number who follow both without any leading at all.

A German being required to give a receipt in full, after much mental effort produced the following: "I ish full. I wants no more money."

CROSS BREED.—"Is that dog of yours a cross breed?" asked a gentleman of a canine vendor. "No, zur; his mother was a very gentle and affectionate creature."

POSSIBLY.—A lady, playfully condemning the wearing of whiskers and moustaches, declared, "It is one of the fashions I invariably set my face against."

Why is playing chess a more exemplary occupation than playing cards? Because you play at chess with two bishops, and at cards with four knaves.

What is the difference between a woodman and a toilet mug? One is a hewer of wood, and the other a hewer of water.

DIFFICULT YET EASY.—If a police officer is after you, the best thing you can do is to lock the door, and then bolt yourself.

A morning paper tells us of the sad case of a man who was shipwrecked and cast upon an uninhabited island, without a shilling in his pocket.

Wright & Walker,
COMMISSION
AND FORWARDING AGENTS,
Hopkins' T. O., S. C. R. R., and Columbia.
S. W. WRIGHT. C. B. WALKER.

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DRUGGIST & APOTHECARY,
Bedell's Row.
A FINE assortment of PERFUMERY and FANCY ARTICLES. Nov 2 26

NOTICE.
RELIABLE
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THE NATIONAL
MARINE AND FIRE
INSURANCE COMPANY,
OF
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

CAPITAL \$565,000.
THE undersigned begs leave to inform the insuring public that he has been legally appointed agent for the above named company, and is now ready to take risks at customary rates. This company was organized in January, 1865, and its assets are the most secure in the country.
JAMES G. GIBBES, Agent.
Columbia, S. C., Oct. 31. Oct 31 1mo

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Importers and Commission
MERCHANTS,
No. 6 NORTH WATER STREET,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
O. G. PARSLEY, JOHN JUDGE,
O. G. PARSLEY, Jr. HENRY SAVAGE.

Special Notice.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
COLUMBIA, NOVEMBER 14, 1865.

THE attention of persons making application for LICENSE to RETAIL SPIRITUOUS LIQUORS, is called to the following extracts from the City Ordinances. No applications will be considered framed otherwise than in strict conformity with the subjoined regulations, now in force:

SECTION 1. Be it ordained, That any person who may be desirous of procuring a license to keep a tavern or retail spirituous liquors within the city of Columbia, shall apply, in writing, to the City Council; and in case the application be for a license to retail spirituous liquors, it shall be accompanied by the certificate of two respectable freeholders of said city, recommending the applicant as a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a license to retail, and agreeing to become his reties; and in case such application be for a license to keep a tavern, it shall be accompanied by the recommendation of at least six (6) respectable freeholders of the neighborhood where said tavern is proposed to be kept, who shall certify that the person so recommended by them is of good repute for honesty and sobriety, and known to the persons recommending to have at least two spare beds, and necessary bedding more than are required for the family of the said applicant, and is well provided with house-room, stabling and provender.

SECTION 2. And be it further ordained, That any person to whom a license to retail spirituous liquors may be granted as aforesaid, shall, together with the persons by whom he or she may have been recommended, enter into bond, in the penal sum of one thousand dollars, wherein and whereby they shall jointly and severally obligate themselves to the corporation of the city of Columbia, that the holder of the license will in every respect comply with all the laws of the State of South Carolina respecting the retailing of spirituous liquors, and with all the ordinances of the city of Columbia, now being or hereafter to be made of force respecting the same.

SECTION 4. Be it further ordained, That all and every person or persons to whom license may be granted, shall, after complying with the above conditions, pay for each and every license to retail spirituous liquors, in quantities not less than a quart, the sum of thirty dollars; and for every license to keep a tavern, the sum of fifty dollars; and such person or persons, on complying with the conditions and making the payment aforesaid, shall be entitled to receive a certificate, signed by the Clerk of the Council.

SECTION 1. Be it ordained, That each and every license to keep a tavern or retail spirituous liquors within the limits of the city of Columbia, which shall hereafter be granted by the said City Council, shall expire on the first day of January next ensuing the date of such license. And the sum to be paid therefor shall be at the rate of fifty dollars per annum for tavern license, and thirty dollars for retail license, as is now provided for by law; and proportionately for any part of the year, from the date thereof to the said first day of January.

SECTION 2. Be it further ordained, That no license to keep a tavern, or retail spirituous liquors, within the limits of the city of Columbia, shall hereafter be granted to any applicant therefor whose recommendation shall be signed by any freeholder who previously may have recommended more than one other person beside the applicant, or who shall be at the time surety for more than one tavern keeper or retailer of spirituous liquors.

Done and ratified in Council, &c.
The necessary blanks and forms can be procured at the office of the City Clerk.
Published by order of the Mayor for general information. F. H. ELMORE.
Nov 16 4 City Clerk.

Stockholders' Meeting.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
WILMINGTON & MANCHESTER R. R. Co.,
Wilmington, N. C., Oct. 20, 1865.
THE Eighteenth Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad Company, will be held in Wilmington, N. C., on WEDNESDAY, the 29th proximo.
WM. A. WALKER,
Nov 4 Sec'y Wil. & Man. Railroad Co.

Charleston Advertisements.
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Messrs. JOHN FRASER & CO., Charleston.
Mr. W. P. HALL, Charleston, S. C.
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BUILDING MATERIALS, &c.,
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Oct 24 26*

New York Advertisements.
JAMES CONNER'S SONS
UNITED STATES TYPE FOUNDRY
AND
PRINTERS' WAREHOUSE,
Nos. 28, 30 and 32 Centre street, (corner of Reade street,) New York. The type on which this paper is printed is from the above Foundry. Nov 18

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GREAT GIFT SALE
OF THE
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JEWELERS' ASSOCIATION.

CAPITAL \$1,000,000.
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Send 25c. for a certificate, which will inform you what you can obtain for \$1. At the same time get our circular, containing full list and particulars; also, terms to agents. Address
JAMES HUTCHINSON & CO.,
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The only true and perfect HAIR DYE. Harmless, Reliable and Instantaneous. Produces immediately a splendid Black or natural Brown, without injuring the hair or skin. Remedies the ill effects of bad dyes. Sold by all Druggists. The genuine is signed William A. Batchelor. Also, REGENERATING EXTRACT OF MILLEFLEURS, for Restoring and Beautifying the Hair. CHARLES BATCHELOR.
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Sept 4 6mo

Burning of the Museum.
LETTER FROM MR. BARNUM.
NEW YORK, July 14, 1865.
MESSRS. HERRING & CO.—GENTLEMEN: Though the destruction of the American Museum has proved a serious loss to myself and the public, I am happy to verify the old adage, that "It's an ill wind that blows nobody good," and, consequently, congratulate you that your well known safes have again demonstrated their superior fire-proof qualities in an ordeal of unusual severity.

The safe you made for me some time ago was in the office of the Museum, on the second floor, back part of the building, and in the hottest of the fire.
After twenty-four hours of trial, it was found among the debris, and on opening it this day has yielded up its contents in very good order—books, papers, policies of insurance, bank bills, all in condition for immediate use, and a noble commentary on the trustworthiness of Herring's Fire-Proof Safe. Yours truly, P. T. BARNUM.

Herring's Patent Champion Safes.
The Most Reliable Protection from Fire ever Known.
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